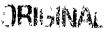
## COVINGTON & BURLING

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January 15, 2004

JAN 1 5 2004

Marlene H Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S W. Washington, D.C. 20554

EDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re Ex Parte Notice in CS Docket Nos 98-120 and 00-96 and DA 01-1264

Dear Ms Dortch

On January 14, 2004 Alan Frank, Chairman of the Network Affiliated Stations Alliance and President of Post-Newsweek Stations, Inc., Andrew Fisher, President of Cox Television and member of the NASA Steering Committee, Jim Yager, CEO of Barrington Broadcasting Company and member of the NASA Steering Committee; and Jennifer Johnson and Jonathan Blake, counsel to NASA, met with Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein and his Legal Advisor Johanna Shelton, Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy and her Legal Advisor Stacy Robinson Fuller, and Jonathan Cody, Legal Advisor to Chairman Powell Mr. Frank, Mr. Yager, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Blake also met with Commissioner Copps and his Senior Legal Advisor Jordan Goldstein and Commissioner Martin and his Legal Advisor Catherine Bohigian

During these meetings, NASA representatives discussed digital multicast carriage requirements with reference to the recent factual submissions made by the NBC Television Affiliates Association and the CBS Television Network Affiliates Association. NASA representatives addressed the importance of ensuring that consumers get the maximum benefit from DTV and that innovative multicast services have the opportunity to flourish. NASA representatives also addressed the issue of public interest standards for DTV, discussing the way in which broadcasters already are serving the public interest through their digital offerings and exchanging ideas with the Commissioners and their advisors on this subject. NASA representatives also inquired about the status of NASA's petition for inquiry and request for declaratory ruling, specifically the Commission's time frame for acting on the petition as it approaches its third anniversary

Pursuant to Section 1 1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, an original and 5 copies of this letter (two copies for each docket number) are being submitted to the Secretary's office, with copies to those at the FCC that attended the meetings. Copies of this letter also have been provided to Mania Baghdadi and Qualex International, as specified in Public Notice DA 01-1264.

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Marlene H Dortch Secretary January 15, 2004 Page 2

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Jennifer Johnson

Sprogre

Counsel to the Network Affiliated Stations Alliance

cc: Commissioner Adelstein

Commissioner Abernathy

Commissioner Copps

Commissioner Martin

Johanna Shelton

Stacy Robinson Fuller

Jordan Goldstein

Catherine Bohigian

Jonathan Cody

Mania Baghdadi

Qualex International